

For Immediate Release: April 9, 2010

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**Saint Paul, MN** - Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-04) issued the following statement upon learning of Congressman Bart Stupak's (D-MI) decision to retire from Congress. Serving on the House Energy & Commerce Committee, Congressman Stupak tackled many policy issues, including health care, energy, environment, consumer protection, interstate commerce, and telecommunications.

"With the announcement of his retirement, my friend and colleague, Bart Stupak will be leaving Congress after 18 years of tenacious, dignified, and honorable service to our Nation and the families of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. I will miss Bart's leadership on protecting the Great Lakes and his tireless determination to protect consumers and fight for working families. I wish Bart and his wife, Laurie, much-deserved rest and happiness."

Congresswoman Betty McCollum serves on the House Appropriations and Budget Committees.

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